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Algona High School

Edited by: Clarissa Laubenthal & Mackenzie Siefken

October 1, 2010

Return of the black hole!

Cane Arrowood

The Algona football team is currently 0-4. After losing to Clear Lake 42-0, the Bulldogs traveled to Hampton-Dumont in hopes of getting their first win. Hampton held a 2-2 record going into the game.

On Friday, September 17, the Bulldogs put up a good fight against the Hampton Bulldogs, falling 45-21. Algona put up a good defensive fight. Algona was down early with a score of 21-0 when Michael McMahon returned a kick off for a touchdown and the extra point was good, making it

14-7 in hopes of an early come back for the Bulldogs. Despite a second half effort, Algona came close but didn't win. The Bulldogs' offense put up 214 yards of total offense. Cane Arrowood led the red and black with 68 yards on 17 carries. Michael McMahon also added 169 all purpose yards and two touchdowns. Coach Bormann said, "Having Cane and Michael in the backfield is a good thing for the team. The two have totally different running styles, making it tough for opposing defenses."

Good things came out of this game for the visiting Bulldogs. The Algona black hole came back. The black hole is the two defensive tackles, Mike Gade and Jordan Mains. The two combined came up with nineteen tackles, making Hampton have to run the ball outside of them. With Mike and Jordan emerging from the defensive line, this will make the Bulldogs a bigger challenge for opposing teams. Mike Gade says, "The hole is back." Leading the team with tackles was Michael McMahon with 12,

Jordan Mains with 11, and Mike Gade with 8.

This week is Bulldog Homecoming and the Dogs hope to pick up their first win. The Nevada Cubs come into the game at 1-4. The two teams match up evenly. Come out and cheer on your Bulldogs!

Couldn't be prouder!

John Etler

The 10th ranked Algona volleyball team is still holding on to their strong start from the beginning of the season. They are currently 20-4 on the season.

The Bulldogs were in action Thursday, September 23rd, against the Clarion Goldfield Cowgirls. They won the match in three straight sets, with scores of 25-14, 25-18, and 25-20. Brittany Vaske led the Bulldogs in kills with 14, followed by Allie Simpson and Jade Simpson with 11 and 7 respectively. Carly Sansone was perfect from the line on serves, going 14 for 14. Laura TerHark helped the Bulldogs with 20 digs and

Connor Barber tossed in 27 assists. Miranda Altman said, "We dominated."

The team's most recent game was against the Eagle Grove Eagles on September 28th. They sent the Eagles packing in 3 sets. The scores for the games were 25-9, 25-13, and 25-12. The kill leader in this game was Rachel Teague with 9 and Brittany Vaske followed with 7. Laura TerHark had 14 digs and Connor Barber added 29 assists. Megan Gerhardt also went 15 for 16 on serves with 4 aces.

The Bulldogs' next game will be against the 11th ranked Webster City Lynx. The game will be in Webster

City on Thursday, September 30th. Webster City enters the contest with a record of 20-3.

The pairings for the regional volleyball tournament were released. AHS will play teams from western Iowa this year. The Bulldogs will be playing the Spirit Lake Indians in the first game of the tournament on October 25th.

Right: Mackenzie Siefken takes an approach during game.



Above: Derek Person is ready to run for a pass.

Photos by Jim Gale



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Easy A

Janelle Wittenberg

Emma Stone, known as Oliver, stars in the movie *Easy A*. Oliver is not very popular in her school until she somehow ended up in the middle of a rumor. This rumor contains information about her losing her virginity, which is something that most high school girls don't want roaming around the school.

At first she enjoyed the attention, since she wasn't well known around the school, so she didn't deny the rumors. The rumor allowed her to change her look and be more recognized by other people. Once it got around, other people around the school who were being bullied for being

homosexual started talking to her and they wanted her to help cover up their sexuality. Oliver then realizes she blabbed her made up story to the wrong people and figured out she had ruined her flawless reputation.

This movie can come off as a very good high school girl movie about what some girls go through.

Easy A was directed by Will Gluck. The genre of this movie is Comedy and it is rated PG-13 for sexuality, language, and some drug material. Other stars in this movie include Penn Badgley and Amanda Bynes. This movie runs an hour and thirty-two minutes long.

The fix-it boys

Jeremy Black

In automotive class from the 20th to the 24th, they took the exhaust off of Sawyer Brandt's truck. Sawyer had first started off wanting to cut the sides off the bed of his truck to turn it into a flatbed. He then decided to just keep it as it is. They cut the exhaust off and left it for a day. The next day they put a stack in the bed of his truck.

The stack is eight inches around. It stands about four feet tall. The stack is chrome and looks good. Sawyer said, "My mom was scared it'd effect the resale value, but she wasn't mad because I bought it with my own money. She treats me like an adult and lets me make adult decisions on my own."

Right: The new stack exhaust in Sawyer Brandt's truck.



Catch the vaccination, not the flu

Karl Nicolaus

With flu season approaching, it is important to know the flu symptoms and get vaccinated before you feel sick. Most symptoms only last a few days. They include fever, cough, sore throat, headache, chills, and fatigue.

There are two options offered by Kossuth Regional Health Center, the shot and the FluMist. KRHC has been at AHS on Wednesday, September 29th,

to administer the FluMist or shot. The cost of the shot is \$27.00 and the cost of the FluMist is \$45.00. Students had to have a completed consent form and payment to receive the vaccine. The consent form can be found on the Algona Community Schools website.

Any student who didn't get vaccinated can still go to the hospital and get the vaccine.

River testing

Taylor Prothman

On the 16th of September, the Advanced Biology class went on a field trip. The class researched the river on the southwest side of town, by Call Park.

The class was studying macroinvertebrates and other characteristics of a river habitat. They tested PH levels, Dissolved Oxygen, Nitrite, Nitrate, Phosphate, and Chloride. They found insects such as Dragonflies,

Mussels and Clams, Water Striders, and Pouch Snails. They also studied the surrounding environment such as how the banks were cut by the river or if the trees roots were exposed.

"We have a very healthy river and we learned a lot about the river we studied," said Heather Rusch and Sarah Bierle.



Above: Ally Klepper and Bryce Hickman waded through the river while water testing.

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Swimming to the

finish

Jenni Weaver

The Algona swim team has been doing a good job this year. They had a meet on Saturday, September 25, in North Des Moines. No team score was kept, but the girls did place in several events.

Sixth place finishers were in the 200-medley relay of Missy Zadow, Hannah Priest, Alyssa Williams, and Nicole Kenne. Also, the 200 free relay team of Missy Zadow, Hannah Priest, Alyssa Williams, and Kendra Rothler.

The fifth place finishers went to Nicole Person and Alyssa Williams in the 200-yard backstroke. Abby Strohmman and Jordan Allen also placed fifth in the 200-yard breaststroke. 1000-

yard relay team of Michaela Christian and Nicole Kenne placed fifth. Kenne, Zadow, Priest, and Williams finished fifth place finish in the 400 free relay.

Second place finishes went to Zadow and Priest in the 200-yard breaststroke.

This was a different style of meet for the girls but they seemed to enjoyed it Coach Fisher said. "It was good to swim against some different teams and see where we were time wise." Missy Zadow said, "This meet was a lot different than usual, they didn't do normal events; it was all relays."

Next up for the team is a meet on September 30th at Storm Lake.

Running riot

John Krause

The Algona Cross Country team had a great meet on Monday, September 27, 2010. The Algona Bulldogs performed at the AHS invitational meet. The AHS invitational was held at the Whittemore Golf Course. It was a great day for a meet. It was really sunny and just beautiful outside.

The girls placed 4th behind some really good teams. Allana Lauck finished in 9th with a time of 16:09, Tangy Wiseman placed 17th, Katie Green ran in at 33rd, Kyle Klepper raced across the finish line in 39th, Katie Connick crossed the line at 44th, Megann Schmidt finished in 47th, and Paige Yi finished off the race in 52nd for the Bulldogs. Anna Zeller raced across the finish line in first place for the girls JV.

The boys' team also placed 4th at the meet behind 3 very quality teams. Ryan McMa-

hon brings home the gold at the Algona Cross Country meet with a 15:47. Ryan McMahon broke the old course record of 15:49 that was set in 1998. After the race Ryan McMahon said, "I felt really good about this race." Johnny Aboud crossed the finish line in 15th, Joe Schattschneider finished in 18th, John Krause ran in at a phenomenal 33rd, Christian Parker placed 52nd, Kory Kuecker came in at 59th, and Noah Hollinger finished it up for the boys team with a 72nd place finish.

Overall this was a fantastic showing for the Algona Cross Country Team. The Bulldogs really came out to perform on Monday. Both the boys and girls finished well at there only home meet. They have their heads held high for the meet on Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at Eagle Grove.



Above: Abby Strohmman competes in the breaststroke.

Right: Katie Green pushes herself to the finish line at the Whittemore Golf Course.



Left: Ryan McMahon leads the pack at the home meet.

Building strong futures

Chris Arend

The ILCC construction crew has kept busy in the past month. Participating in the Construction class this year are seniors Ben Schmidt, Brandon Gifford, Matt Smith, Jake Anderson, and Royce Boleneus and also junior Dylan Householder. They begin class 6th period and work until the end of the school day, some days even later.

Their latest project has been to build history teacher and wrestling coach, Mr. Morgan, a garage. Also this year they have poured concrete and created a sidewalk for head custodian, Rick Adams. Throughout the year they will continue to work on different projects for the school.

Before they could even legally use any

equipment or start working, they have to be OSHA certified. Last month, the construction crew went for three days of training at the ILCC campus in Emmetsburg. They learned how to use machines from the skid loader to the air nailer. Then they had to take tests over the running order of the machines and then they were officially OSHA certified.

Last week, on Thursday, September 23, they had to go back to the ILCC campus for more OSHA training and to finish their certifications.

Keep a lookout next time you drive past a construction site, you might just see your fellow classmates hard at work.

Little Africa

Destiny Smith

Continuing from last week's article on the haunted Cylinder schoolhouse, another local scary spot is just east of Algona. Start by heading out of town east on McGregor and keep going until you hit the second gravel road. This road is noticed by many skid marks. Take a right and continue going straight. You will come to a fork in the road. Here you take another right. You will go up a slight hill and there will be a trail on your left. This trail will take you into "Little Africa."

"Little Africa" is a local scary spot. Kids drive out there for a little scare and to see if any of the rumors are true. It is said that "Little Africa" has been the scene of many murders. One we know to be true was the murder of Nicole Berte by Randy Lee Bode. According to court documents, Bode

was intoxicated when Nicole gave him a ride home from Pep's. He strangled her to death and left her in her car, which he started on fire at Little Africa.

Other stories are rumored about Little Africa, including that the bridge you cross is said to have been the spot of two hangings. There has been two car accidents out there, supposedly caused by people seeing things standing in the middle of the road that won't move.

Whether these stories are rumor or true, "Little Africa" is the place to go if you're looking for a scare. With Halloween coming up, you'll be sure to be catching many teens heading that way. Have fun and be safe on the twists and turns of the mysterious murder site known as "Little Africa."

#1 album again

Tyler Mawdsley

Chicago's rock & nu metal sons, Disturbed, have done it again. The band released their newest album, *Asylum*, on August 31, 2010. Within a few weeks, *Asylum* was #1 on the Billboard 200, which ranks the best-selling records in the USA.

Asylum joins Disturbed's *Indestructible*, *Ten Thousand Fists*, and *Believe* albums at the top of the 200 best-selling list. It is their fourth straight #1 seller. The album was given a 72% approval rating by MetaCritic, and 4/5 stars by

many critiquing sources like Allmusic and Kick-Axe.

Asylum has much of the same traits as previous Disturbed albums, like lead vocalist David Drainman's maniacal laughter, aggressive-sounding tracks, and dark lyrics.

Asylum also incorporates political ideas, worldviews, and even mythical beasts like vampires and werewolves. Disturbed bassist John Moyer commented on the appearance of the mythical beasts, like in the track "The

Animal," in an interview with Artistdirect.com: "It's not the *Twilight* take on vampires and werewolves—that pretty boy look. *Asylum* is more indicative of that darker side".

Also, in an interview with Blender.com, Drainman said, "I just think that there's a heightened level of complexity in the songwriting, and the hooks are stronger and more defined than they've been in the past, and the level of musicianship really has been raised quite a bit."

Asylum is selling at about \$12 a copy on Amazon.com. Its MP3 singles are \$0.99 for each download. If you don't want to buy the whole CD, the most recommended tracks to purchase are "Asylum," "Another Way to Die," and "The Animal"; all of which are downloadable content on the video game *Rock Band* as well. If you want a good rock CD at a decent price, then go pick up Disturbed's *Asylum*!

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Quiz bowl

Zach McKenna

The Algona High School Quiz Bowl team is starting off a new season. Quiz bowl is coached by Ms. Wichtendahl.

Some of you might not know what quiz bowl even is. Quiz bowl is a team of people together answering a series of questions. Each team has four members. If your team is the first one to get the question correct, you get a point. The questions range from academics to pop culture. The team with

the most points wins!

Last year Connor McGuire, Michael McMahon, and Tommy Christian led the Algona Quiz Bowl team. Nyle Larson was also a part of that group but he graduated. Sam Lipps says, "I am working very hard to make the spot to help the quiz bowl team."

The next quiz bowl tournament is coming soon, so make sure you support the quiz bowl team!!

Baby boomers

Brandee Hockett

Is Iowa seeing a baby boom? The hospitals are prepared for a surge among couples who were stuck in their houses due to the coldest winter for almost five decades. Studies have shown there is a great rise in number of births nine months after the heavy snow and major power outages. There has been a record broken in Iowa for babies born at Mercy Hospital.

According to the public health of the Iowa department, for the first time since 1985 the number of babies born in Iowa passed 40,000. In 2007 the numbers were up to 41,000. Last year's amounts are not posted yet. The birth rate in Iowa has bottomed out at 12.8 in 2002. The birth rate in 2007 has gone up to 13.7. In Minnesota the rate was 14.2 in 2007. For 2006 the rate in Nebraska was 15.1.

A spokesperson

from Kossuth Regional Health Center said there were 24 expected mothers for September but only 17 babies were born as of September 28th. Some babies came early, in the later part of August. KRHC had to increase labor nurses from one as previously required to now two nurses. If there is only one, another nurse is on call for that day. There are six babies scheduled due in the month of October.

Some of the explanations of the increase of births, besides the harsh winter, include immigration and people not worrying about whether they can afford the babies. Andres Guillen thinks, "People are having problems with money, so they don't think about the consequences."

Apples & grills

DJ Throckmorton

On Wednesday, September 22, through Friday, September 24, Mrs. Bormann's Food and Nutrition II students were to create three different recipes using apples. The students were allowed to make any recipe they wanted, as long as they were in different categories of food. Some of the recipes included: bacon wrapped apple slices, apple crisp, apple butter, etc.

In Independent Living, the students spent Tuesday, September 21, through Thursday,

September 23, outdoor grilling. Each kitchen group was to make two vegetable dishes and one meat dish. The students picked what they wanted to make, made out a shopping list, and a group of students purchased the groceries for the groups. Each student had to bring his or her own meat to grill. Cody Combs said, "Outdoor grilling was an enjoyable experience with Mrs. Bormann. Mike Gade was really good at grilling."

Apple Crisp

Ingredients:

1lb tart apples, peeled, cored, and thinly sliced

1/4 tsp ground cinnamon

3/4 c. flour

1/4 c. water

2 tbsp butter

Directions:

1/4 c. sugar

1. Put apples in baking dish, sprinkle with cinnamon, and add water.
2. Combine flour & sugar. Rub in butter until fine crumbs.
3. Sprinkle the crumble on top of fruit and bake in a preheated oven at 325 F until the crumble is golden brown (about 40 min.).

New light poles

Matt Olson

As everyone knows by now, the new middle school is up and progressing everyday. While the new middle school is getting closer to completion, AHS is also making other upgrades to the building. The parking lots have been resurfaced and the sophomore lot has been completely redone. Mrs. Bormann's new room is also a nice upgrade to AHS.

Another improvement is the new light poles going in. The bases have

been put in and the poles and lights will soon be put up.

This improvement will make the school look nicer and also the students and faculty will be benefiting from these lights. People will be able to see where they are walking because the other light poles were lacking bright light and if they need the light for something, it's there. These new light poles are going to be a great investment for AHS.

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Eat fresh!

Logan Thill

You know those days when you're hungry but don't have much money? Your choice should be Subway; they have the \$5 footlong. Subway has a very large variety of different sandwiches you can choose from.

First you start off by choosing what kind and size of bread you would like to have. There are five different types of bread you can choose from. The size choices of breads you can create your sandwich on are six inch, twelve inch, 4 inch, or flatbread. The breads you can choose from are white, Italian, wheat, honey oat, Monterey cheddar, and Italian herbs and cheese.

Once you choose what kind of bread you would like to have your sandwich on, you get countless amounts of different choices of meats, you can choose from a cold sandwich such as a cold cut combo or you can get a warm sandwich like the chicken bacon ranch. If you get a warm sandwich, you can choose whether you want it to be warmed or toasted.

Once you pick your meat, you get a choice of cheese to put on your

sandwich. You can choose from cheddar, shredded, American, or pepper jack cheese.

As you're moving down the assembly line of your sandwich, you get to the vegetables. You can choose from many different kinds of vegetables, some being lettuce, tomatoes, and jalapenos.

As soon as you get done picking what veggies you want to be on your sandwich, you get to choose what kind of sauce to put on; your choices being ranch, mayonnaise, vinaigrette, red wine vinaigrette, olive oil/vinegar, and southwestern. You can also put salt and pepper on your sandwich.

You can choose between just the sandwich, or pop and chips (meal). A plain six inch will usually cost around 4-5 dollars and a footlong can cost anywhere from 5-10 dollars, depending on what you have and if you have a meal or not. The choices you get for pop are all Coca-Cola products. The Subway doors are open from 7AM-10PM Monday through Saturday, 7AM - 9PM on Sundays. "Subway... EAT FRESH!" says Bronson Jergenson.

Golf

Jacob Foust

The juniors and seniors are golfing in Mrs. Bjuström's P.E. class. In the class they are learning the golf etiquette, like how to act on the golf course. The class is also learning good golf technique.

They will eventually be going out to River Road Golf Course to practice. Mrs. Bjuström says in the years past they have taken a half-day off of school and played a round of golf. They do not have to pay to go out to the

Band Day!

Jackie Hutchison

It's the 62nd Band Festival on October 2, 2010, in Algona Iowa. There will be a parade that will be starting at 12:30 p.m. There are 18 Iowa middle school and high school bands and 130 additional parade units. The bands will give their performance and get evaluated and ranked by a team of professional marching band adjudicators. The rankings of the bands' performances will be announced following the parade, at the reviewing stand, at approximately 3:30 p.m.

After that there is a short drum line exhibition at the reviewing stand. The schools participating in this exhibition are: Bishop Garrigan, Forest City, Storm Lake, Charles City, and Algona High School.

Algona Band Day festivities continue at Algona High School Stadium with a field show. There will be 15 bands performing in this. The show will start at 5:30 p.m. and end around 10:00 p.m. Over 1,000 high school musicians will be performing that evening. The performances are then ranked and scored against each other. Each band receives a taped critique

from each adjudicator and a video of their performance.

Following the field competition there will be awards given those who place by class. There are also plaques presented for the best drum line, color guard, wind section, drum major, and marching technique. There will be a sweepstakes award, which is sponsored by the Algona High School District Vocal and Instrumental Promoters. It is awarded to the band with the highest points. The points for the sweepstakes award include the parade and field portions of the day.

Hope to see everyone at the parade or at the field show! It's going to be lots of fun! Lee Wegener says, "It's gunna be fun and very cold!"

Right: Dan Haack practices for Band Day.



golf course. In the past years they have also went to the driving range.

For this golf class you don't have to dress out for golfing, but you do have to be in good shoes; not flip-flops or high heels. Every

other day they have a fitness class in the gym.

Clarissa Laubenthal says, "It makes me a better golfer."